"Being a Man of God During a Crisis"

Genesis 12, 13

Principle: We are either <u>entering</u> a crisis, <u>dealing</u> with a crisis or <u>leaving</u> a crisis.

"Have no fear of sudden disaster for the Lord will be your confidence." Proverbs 3:25-26

Principles of crisis:

- 1. They are inevitable.
- 2. They are variable.
- 3. They are impartial
- 4. They are unpredictable.
- 5. I can choose my response to a crisis.

Principle: When you get into sin, don't keep going – but <u>repent</u>.

Principle: Sometimes you have to go back to the <u>basics</u> – to where you first started.

Principle: When you determine where God would have you, make sure that you factor into that equation God's will and not just what makes sense on <u>paper</u>.

"You can't walk with God and hold hands with the devil."

Five values that God looks for in the life of a godly man in crisis:

1. Compassion

"They are all wrapped up in their own affairs, not about the cause of Christ." Philippians 2:21

2. Consistency

"The man of integrity walks securely, but he who takes crooked paths will be found out." Proverbs 10:9

"It is a wonderful heritage to have an honest father." Proverbs 20:7

3. Cooperation

Three things about the Christian life: It is a <u>family</u>, <u>fellowship</u> and a <u>fight</u>.

"So all the men of Israel got together and united as one man against the city." Judges 20:11

4. Commitment

"Faith, by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead." James 2:17

5. Courage

"So then, my brothers, because of God's great mercy to us, offer yourselves as a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to His service and pleasing to Him. Don't conform to the standard of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind." Romans 12:1, 2

"Only those who give away their lives for my sake and for the sake of the Good News will ever know what it means to really live." Mark 8:35

"The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth that He may show Himself strong in the heart of those whose heart is perfect toward Him." 2 Chronicles 16:9

How to face an unexpected crisis:

1. Refocus on God's closeness.

"Fear not, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name, you are Mine. When you pass through the waters I will be with you and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you." Isaiah 43:1, 2

2. Rely on God's care

"The believer will not be overthrown by evil circumstances. God's constant care of him will make a deep impression on all who see it. He does not fear bad news nor live in dread of what may happen for he has settled in his mind that God will take care of him. That is why he is not afraid but can calmly face his foes." Psalms 112:6-8

3. Rely on God's control

"Whoever goes to the Lord for safety and protection can say to Him, "you are my defender and protector. You are my God; in You I trust. He will keep you safe from all hidden danger. You need not fear." Psalms 91:1-5